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South Milwaukee Fire Department Launches Fire Safety for Seniors Program

In response to a kitchen fire in which an elderly resident was unable to lift and deploy her fire extinguisher, the South Milwaukee Fire Department is pleased to announce the launch of the Fire Safety for Seniors program. The initiative provides South Milwaukee senior citizens with a free, lighter-weight fire extinguisher to enhance their ability to handle and deploy the extinguisher in the event of an emergency.

Senior citizens can submit a request for a free, lighter-weight extinguisher on the Fire Department's website at smfdwi.org or by calling (414) 768-8191.

The program has been made possible through the support of the Bucyrus Foundation, Paul Davis Restoration, Precision Electrical, and Warm Up South Milwaukee.

Said South Milwaukee Mayor Jim Shelenske: "The South Milwaukee Fire Department provides excellent service to our citizens. I am proud of this innovative idea that addresses a need in our community. Thanks to this program, our seniors will be safer."

"The fire service has a long history of identifying community concerns and needs, we then work toward finding a solution," said Fire Chief John Litchford. "The community of South Milwaukee reached out to us, their Fire Department; we, in return, worked with business and community leaders and found a solution."

Earlier this summer, a Fire Safety for Seniors event was held at Marquette Manor in South Milwaukee to kick-off the program and distribute 75 fire extinguishers to the senior living community.